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Ironton, Mo.
J. FRANK GREEN, Judge Twenty-Sixth
Judicial, De Soto, Mo.

OFFICIAL DIRECTORY IRON COUNTY.

COURTS:
Circuit Court is held on the
Fourth Monday in April and October.
County Court convenes on the
First Monday of March, June, September
and December.
Probate Court is held on the First
Monday in February, May, August and No-
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OFFICERS:
A. W. HOLLOMAN, Presiding Judge County
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trict.
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J. T. AKE, Public Adm'r, Ironton.
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CHURCHES:

CATHOLIC CHURCH, Arcadia College
and Pilot Knob. L. C. WERNER, Rector.
High Mass and Sermon at Arcadia College
every Sunday at 8 o'clock A. M. Vespers and
Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 4
o'clock P. M. High Mass and Sermon and
Benediction at Pilot Knob Catholic Church
at 10:30 o'clock A. M. Sunday School for
children at 1:30 o'clock P. M.
M. E. CHURCH, Cor. Reynolds and
Mountain Streets, Isaac Boers, Pastor, Resi-
dence: Ironton. Services every Sabbath
at 11 A. M. and 7:45 P. M. Sunday School
9:30 A. M. Class at 10:30 A. M. Vespers at
3 o'clock. Prayer Meeting Tuesday and
Thursday evenings. All are invited.
M. E. CHURCH, SOUTH, Fort Hill,
between Ironton and Arcadia. Rev. T.
TIDWELL, Pastor. Preaching every Sunday,
morning and evening. Prayer meeting eve-
ry Wednesday evening. Sabbath School at
9:30 A. M.
BAPTIST CHURCH, Madison street,
near Knob street. F. M. SHORSH, Pastor.
Residence: Ironton. Preaching on every
Sunday before the first Sunday of each
month at 2:30 P. M. and on the first and third
Sundays at 11 A. M. and Sunday School
at 9:30 A. M. and Prayer Meeting
every Tuesday evening at 7:30 P. M.
LUTHERAN CHURCH, Pilot Knob.
Rev. Otto Prager, Pastor.
A. M. E. CHURCH, Corner Shepherd
and Washington streets, Ironton. A. AN-
ANATHY, pastor.

SOCIETIES:

IRON LODGE, No. 107, I. O. O. F.,
meets every Monday at its hall, corner Main
and Madison streets. HERMAN DAVIS, N. G.
J. T. BALDWIN, Secretary.
IRONTON ENCAMPMENT, No. 29, I.
O. O. F., meets on the first and third Thurs-
day evenings of each month in Odd-Fellows'
Hall, corner Main and Madison streets.
J. T. BALDWIN, C. P. F. DINGEL, Scribe.
STAR OF THE WEST LODGE, No. 133,
A. F. & A. M., meets in Masonic Hall, corner
Main and Madison streets, on Saturday eve-
ning of preceding full moon. E. D. AKE, W. M.
J. T. AKE, Secretary.
MIDIAN CHAPTER, No. 71, R. A.,
meets at the Masonic Hall on the first and
third Tuesdays of each month, at 7 P. M.
W. R. EDGAR, M. E. H. P. H. B. JONES, Sec-
retary.
VALLEY LODGE, No. 1870,
KNIGHTS OF HONOR, meets in
Odd-Fellows' Hall every alternate
Wednesday evening. J. S. JORDAN,
D. A. P. VANCE, Reporter.
EASTERN STAR LODGE, No. 62, A.
F. & A. M. (colored), meets on the second
Saturday of each month.
IRON POST, No. 346, G. A. R.,
meets the 2d and 4th Thursday
Evenings of each month.
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C. R. PECK, Adj't.
PILOT KNOB LODGE, No. 253, A. O.
U. W. M. meets every 2d and 4th Friday
evenings, 7:30 P. M., upstairs in Union
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PILOT KNOB LODGE, No. 156, I. O. O.
F., meets every Tuesday evening at their
hall. CHAS. M. GREGORY, Secretary.
IRON LODGE, No. 30, SONS OF HE-
RMAN, meets on the second and last Sunday
of each month. WM. STEFFENS, President.
VAL EFFINGER, Secretary.
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IRON MOUNTAIN LODGE, No. 430,
A. F. & A. M., meets Saturday night on or
before the full moon. LOUIS PETIT, W. M.
J. A. PARKER, Secretary.
IRON MOUNTAIN LODGE, No. 290, I.
O. F., meets Wednesday night of each week.
PAT. CALGILIN, N. G.
J. A. PARKER, Sec'y.
IRON MOUNTAIN LODGE, No. 293,
A. O. U. W., meets on the first and third
Friday of each month.
BELLEVUE.
MOSAIC LODGE No. 351, A. F. & A.
M., meets on Saturday night or after the
full moon. A. J. HARRALL, W. M.

FARMERS ALLIANCE MEETINGS.
Annapolis Alliance, No. 154, meets Satur-
day, April 28th, 1888, and after that, every
second Saturday, at 7:30 P. M.
J. M. BROWN, Sec'y, Annapolis, Mo.
Arcadia Valley Alliance, No. 104, meets on
Saturday evenings before the 1st and 3d Sun-
days of every month, at 7:30 P. M.
JOHN LOV, Sec'y, Ironton, Mo.
EAGLE ALLIANCE, No. 152, meets on the
1st and 3d Saturdays of each month. All
neighbors are invited.
FRANCISVILLE Alliance meets at Hogan
on the 2d and 4th Tuesday of each month at 8
o'clock P. M.
B. S. GREGORY, Sec'y.
MARBLE CREEK ALLIANCE, No. 102, meets
every month on Saturday evening, before
the second Sunday at Logtown, and Satur-
day evening before the fourth Sunday at the
Red Schoolhouse on Marble Creek.
W. T. SUTTON, Sec'y, Ironton, Mo.
ELM GROVE ALLIANCE, No. 119, meets
every other Saturday evening, at the Elm
Grove schoolhouse, Bellevue, at 7 o'clock P.
M.
W. J. RUSSELL, Secretary.
CEDAR GROVE ALLIANCE, No. 120, meets
at the Cedar Grove schoolhouse in Bellevue,
the second and fourth Saturday at 7 o'clock
P. M.
WM. RYDROCK, President.
J. G. HARTMAN, Secretary.
FRANCISVILLE Alliance, No. 363, meets
at Workmen's Hall, Graniteville, on the 2d
and 4th Saturdays of each month at 7:30 P.
M.
CHAS. ORRICK, Sec'y.
Carver Alliance, No. 501, meets on the 2d
and 4th Saturdays of each month at 7 o'clock
P. M. at the Bollinger Schoolhouse.
J. C. HUFF, Sec'y.

Iron County Register.

BY ELI D. AKE.

OUR GOD, OUR COUNTRY, AND TRUTH.

VOLUME XXIV.

IRONTON, MO., THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 1891.

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NUMBER 39.

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Roofing, Guttering and Repair Work

DONE PROMPTLY.

STORE and SHOP.

IRONTON, MO

Old Times.

Ed. Register—

In my last article I spoke of wild fowl.
I never saw such sights of wild fowl as I
saw the fall I was married, on the prairies
of Illinois and along the lakes and
bayous of the Mississippi and Illinois riv-
ers. There is, all up and down these
rivers, way back against the bluffs, a
series of lakes, from a few acres in extent
to lakes miles long, where, at some early
period, the river has flowed. For, at dif-
ferent periods of time the river has
changed its channel. Some forty years
ago I was shown where a steamboat was
sunk some twenty years before, with a
hundred thousand dollars in silver dollars
on board. At the time it was shown me,
it was about three miles from the bank of
the river, and a dense forest of cotton
wood was growing over the boat. Since
my knowledge, the Missouri river has
changed its bed ten miles north of where
it ran when I first knew the river.
Around these lakes grow the rankest
weeds and tall rice, such as all wild fowl
love. I have seen around the lakes on
the Illinois river bottoms, beggar-like
and spanish needles grow so thick you
could not force your way through them,
and so tall as to hide the lake from view.

I remember one day in the fall of 1850,
I and my wife were on a visit to "my
wife's folks," and, as I spent a month of
time, I put in a good share of my time
hunting. I took my gun and went to
the river to hunt geese and ducks. When
I reached the chain of lakes, I found the
weeds so thick and tall I could not see the
lakes; but I could hear thousands and
millions of geese and ducks quacking,
and now and then the trumpeting of
swan. They made such a noise it was
almost deafening. I tried every way to
get to see them. I tried to force my way
through the dense growth of weeds, but
the tops were so high and interlocked,
they looked like a solid wall. Before I
had pushed myself through I came to
water among the weeds. It had come on
fall rains, and the lakes were filling up
with water. Just then I had reached a
fringe of willow trees. Some of them
were one or two feet through, and covered
from top to bottom with limbs. I
thought, "now, I will climb one of these
willows, and maybe I can look over the
tops of the weeds and see open water." I
did not know much about the nature of
the willow trees. They looked as though
it would be an easy task to climb one. I
said to myself, "I am going up that tree,
and see what I can see." I found it very
easy getting up with my gun in one hand.
I had got up about twenty feet from the
ground, and was standing with my feet
on some limbs on each side of the body of
the tree, and such a sight as I saw! Out
in the lake were acres and acres of
swans and geese, pelicans and ducks, of
all sorts and sizes. I never saw such a
sight. It almost took my breath away.
And such a racket those ducks made!
And now and then a swan would raise
his head and trumpet. It made me feel
so little as I stood contemplating the
scene. All at once, for some cause, all
that immense mass of fowl gave a war-
ring cry and all as one rose on the wing,
with a noise like thunder, and every one
quacking and trumpeting. It gave me
such a start, I involuntarily moved, and
the limbs on each side of the tree gave
way, and I never stopped until I reached
the ground, and I had taken every limb
off as I went down. I landed square and
solid on my feet, none the worse for my
descent, and I did not let my gun get
away from me. As I stood at the foot
of the tree, looking up to see how the
thing looked, I think I must have looked
as I felt: a little foolish. I said to my-
self, "well you couldn't do that again if
you were to try forty times." All who
know anything about a willow, know
that the limbs are not set on the tree like
any other tree. They are just buds from
the outside of the tree and bark. They
do not penetrate the body of the tree, as
other kinds of wood, and they are small.
There was not a limb on that tree more
than an inch in diameter. I have never
tried to climb a willow since that time.

In those lakes there is a plant, some-
thing like a lily, called the yoker root.
The root is sought after by the swans;
they will dive down in the water, and
with their strong bills, dig the roots out
of the mud, and feast on them. On the
top of the plant is a large head or capsule,
filled with a dark nut like filbert, and
they are as good to eat as the filbert.
One day I had killed some ducks on one
of those lakes, and the only way to get
them out was to strip and wade after
them. I had gone but a few feet when
one of my feet went down in one of those
swan holes, and I went, soue! to the
bottom. I found the bottom of the lake
completely honey-combed with swan
holes; and those beggar-like make fine
pasture for geese and ducks; they are
very fond of the seeds.

Sand hill cranes: in the afternoon,
just before night, you can see great flocks
of them coming, flying high up in the
air, every crane creaking—and such a
noise as they make coming home to roost!
For they roost standing on the ground,
first on one leg, then on the other.
When they get above their roosting-place
they commenced circling around and
round; then they, one after another,
drop slowly down to the ground with
wings spread, and legs hanging down.
They look so funny! I have seen, on
the Illinois river bottoms, acres and acres
of them at a time. I saw in the Reg-
ister an account of the wonderful sights
to be seen in Alaska, by E. J. Green of
Norton Sound. He says swans, geese,
ducks and sand-hill cranes, by thousands
and thousands. The day I was married,
the couple that stood up with us had

made arrangements to take a buggy ride
to Perry, a town six or eight miles up the
river. It was a most lovely fall morning;
for we were married early in the morn-
ing. As we rode past large corn fields
and wheat fields, we saw a great many
flocks of geese in the fields, in the wheat.
But when we reached some corn fields in
the river bottom, we saw acres and acres
of cranes. I said to my wife of an hour,
"Oh, why didn't we fetch a gun along?
You could hold the horse while I could
kill some of those geese and cranes."

I think one of the most laughable
things I ever saw was a crane dance.
One rainy Sunday morning in the spring
of the year, just as it was time to get
ready to go to church—if there had been
one to go, or any preaching in the region
—a large flock of sand-hills came sailing
around the farm. At last they saw a lot
of manure heaps scattered over the
meadow, where we had been hauling.
They soon came to the ground and com-
menced picking any stray grains of corn
from the heaps, and they soon had their
heaps nicely spread for us. After they
had satisfied their appetites, those cranes
commenced a series of games, running
and jumping and hopping around in a
most laughable manner. At last they all
got together, and seemed to be holding a
consultation. As we all stood or sat
looking out of the windows at their an-
tics, one who seemed to be master of cer-
emonies started on a kind of half-hop
or gallop, with wings half spread, and
head down. All the rest stood looking
on. Pretty soon another started, then
another, and soon, until every one of
them was just a cutting it! If it was
Sunday, I think we did a good deal of
laughing; and there those great, long-
legged, awkward things kept it up for
an hour or two. I had in my boyhood
days seen some high and lofty tumbling
by showman, but it wasn't a drop to the
bucket to what this free show was.
I have often been asked if I thought it
was wrong to dance. I always said, "I don't
know." I have seen some very funny
free dances in my good hunting days,
among the different kinds of birds and
animals. It seems to me to be a part of
the birds' instinct to run jump, skip and
dance. As I never danced but once or
twice in my life, and that under peculiar
circumstances, I shall leave that subject
to wiser heads than mine. T. P. R.

Indian Wheat Production.

In order to get a clear conception of In-
dia's place as a competitor for the sale of
wheat in the United States, it is necessary
to know what conditions the wheat is grown,
the mode of cultivation, the approximate cost
of production, the area in cultivation now
and to what uses since the wheat is raised,
production and exportation for a series
of years, and the average yield per acre
for such series of years.

From the earliest ages the government
of India has, from time to time, been
changed by conquest, but each conqueror
has succeeded to the ownership of the land,
and the universal practice has been to
raise revenue by re-renting the land, and
the waters of irrigation—thus im-
proving upon Henry George's single-tax
—such tax, until after the British con-
quest, largely by the sale of land, and
by "farmers of the revenue," who dif-
fer from other farmers inasmuch as they
do not sow; yet they do reap a crop that
rarely fails.

While having no voice whatever in de-
termining the amount of rent, the ryot,
from father to son, retains possession of
the land so long as the assessments (fixed
by surveys made by officials of the Indian
Civil Service) are paid, and in many of
the provinces he may sell and transfer his
right of occupancy.
The cultivation is by repeated plowings
—from 8 to 30—with an implement con-
sisting of a triangular piece of wood
about 18 inches long and 6 inches in
diameter at the larger end, the other be-
ing pointed. On the flat side of this
block of wood a groove is made, into
which a flat piece of iron, a foot in length,
an inch wide and a half an inch thick,
is inserted and held in place by one or
two staples. Pointed at one end, the
iron bar serves as a plow point. The
larger end of the triangular block of
wood is mortised into an upright stick,
the latter about three feet in length, at
the top of which is a wooden pin which
serves as a handle. About 18 inches from
the ground, a strip of board 3 inches wide
14 inches thick and 8 feet long, is insert-
ed in the upright stick, serving as a beam
and tongue, to which is hitched a team,
long-legged pair of diminutive cattle, and
with this equipment the Indian cultivator
(and his ancestors for thousands of years)
has managed to scratch over about three-
fourths of an acre per day; and after
from 8 to 30 such plowings the seed (120
to 180 pounds) is dribbled into the shal-
low furrow by hand, and then covered
by dragging a log over the ground. Ac-
cording to the Rev. L. L. Hauser, who
spent many years in India, the pair of
bullocks cost \$8, the plow \$50; the log
lever, 30c; a rake, 15c; a weeder, 6c;
a winnowing scoop, 6c; a sickle, 6c; and
the water-lifter, completing the farmer's
equipment, 50c—the entire cost of such
equipment being \$9.53.

The ripened grain is cut with a sickle
about six inches long, the harvester sit-
ting upon his haunches and cutting about
one-twelfth of an acre per day, which is
gathered up, bound and shocked by an-
other of the efficient workers, and after
curing sufficiently is threshed by being
tramped out by cattle and fanned by
hand. Doubtless this has been the Indian
process of growing wheat since the dawn
of civilization and this is likely to be the
process for many years to come, as the
holdings average less than ten acres,
there is no other way to employ this
great mass of humanity, and agricultural
labor commands but five to six cents per
day. Indeed, human beings are the most
abundant and cheaper, by far, than im-
proved agricultural implements, and a
year's wages would not buy a first-class
steel plow or a fanning-mill, and the
land being fully occupied and British
imperial agents, the farmers have no
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